

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MING-STAP

As of 08/15/2014

What is the State Tuition Assistance Program?

The State Tuition Assistance Program (STAP) is a State of Michigan funded tuition assistance program that pays for the tuition costs of eligible Michigan National Guard service members.

Who is eligible?

- All National Guard traditional and AGR Soldiers/Airmen in an active drilling status are eligible.
- Mobilized or deployed Army National Guard Soldiers are eligible.
- Any other criteria determined by The Adjutant General consistent with Michigan National Guard recruiting and retention requirements.

Who is not eligible?

- Soldiers who accrued four or more periods of unexcused absences in the previous twelve months are not eligible for STAP.
- Soldiers pursuing a lateral or lower degree are not eligible for STAP.

How much does STAP pay?

STAP pays up to \$250 per semester hour, \$167 per quarter hour, or \$16.66 per clock hour up to \$4,500 per fiscal year. The \$4,500 annual cap can also be applied to fees that are DIRECTLY associated with classes (i.e. lab fees). STAP does not cover fees such as: Health Services Fees; Building or Facility Fees; or Student Activity Fees. Soldiers must provide details of the fees on their application. STAP cannot be used for books.

What degrees may I earn using STAP?

Associate – Baccalaureate – Masters or First Professional – Certificate *Up to 144 credits for an undergraduate degree and up to 42 credits for a Graduate Degree or Certificate.

How do I apply?

- Go to www.michigan.gov/mingstap
- Complete Statement of Understanding
- Email documents to mingstap@michigan.gov

If I cannot request FTA through GoArmyEd, can I still apply for STAP?

Yes, but when you submit your application you must include in your email the reason why you cannot request FTA through GoArmyEd.

When are applications due?

Applications for STAP may be submitted up to 60 days prior to the class start date and must be submitted no more than 14 days after the class start date.

Does my GI Bill and/or Federal Tuition Assistance benefit affect my award?

No

Can STAP be used in conjunction with other federal tuition assistance such as Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) and/or Post 9-11 GI Bill CH 33?

Yes. As long as FTA does not cover 100% of tuition & fees, STAP can be used to cover remaining tuition and/or eligible fees. For example, if the class tuition is \$300 per credit hour and your FTA pays \$250 per credit hour, then STAP can pay the remaining \$50 per credit hour. FTA will be applied first in determining eligible STAP assistance amounts.

Can I still receive STAP if I'm receiving a Pell Grant?

Yes since a Pell Grant can be used to assist with other education related expenses such as books, supplies and other course related materials.

Can STAP be used to help pay for books?

No. STAP does not reimburse the cost of books and/or study materials.

Does my Commander need to sign the application?

Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers do not need their Commander's signature on the application. Verification of "Good Standing" with the unit is checked through SIDPERS. Members of the Michigan Air National Guard do require their Commander's signature to verify "good standing" with their unit.

Which schools are eligible to receive STAP?

As a state funded program, STAP can only be used at eligible educational institutions as defined by the Michigan Legislature PA 259 of 2014. "Eligible educational institution" means a public or private college, university, vocational school, technical school, or trade school located in this state.

For more detailed information, please visit the www.michigan.gov/mingstap website by clicking the link.